

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 136527

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, SN

SUBJECT: CIVAIR:BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

FOR JOHN MEADOWS, CHAIRMAN USDEL

FOLLOWING IS TEXT CAB LETTER DATED JUNE 24 TO SECSTATE:

QUOTE. THIS IS WITH REFERENCE TO THE CIVIL AIR TALKS SCHEDULED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE IN SINGAPORE, JULY 1, 1974.

IT IS THE BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE TALKS BE EXPLORATORY IN NATURE ONLY. IN ITS REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS, SINGAPORE HAS INDICATED A DESIRE FOR BROAD OPERATING RIGHTS VIA ATLANTIC, PACIFIC, AND POLAR ROUTINGS TO VALUABLE TRAFFIC POINTS IN THE UNITED STATES. HOWEVER, IT HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION OF WHAT IT HAS IN MIND REGARDING US TRAFFIC RIGHTS. IN THIS REGARD, THE BOARD IS CONCERNED OVER THE RESTRICTIVE CIVIL AIR POLICY SINGAPORE HAS FOLLOWED SINCE ASSUMING INDEPENDENCE FROM THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA IN 1965.

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PAGE 02 STATE 136527

PAN AMERICAN IS THE ONLY SCHEDULED UNITED STATES CARRIER

CERTIFICATED TO SERVE SINGAPORE AND WHILE IT HAS BEEN GRANTED UNILATERAL AUTHORITY BY SINGAPORE, THIS AUTHORITY HAS BEEN TOKEN IN NATURE, CONTAINING SEVERE FREQUENCY

LIMITATIONS AS WELL AS LIMITING PAN AM TO THIRD AND FOURTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC ONLY, WITHOUT STOPOVER RIGHTS. THESE CONDITIONS FORCED THE CARRIER TO SUSPEND PASSENGER SERVICE TO SINGAPORE BETWEEN 1971 AND MARCH 1974.

RELUCTANCE BY THE BOARD TO SUPPORT A RECOMMENDATION FOR AN EXCHANGE OF RIGHTS AT THIS TIME IS BASED ON VARIOUS CONSIDERATIONS. THERE IS INADEQUATE INFORMATION CONCERNING SINGAPORE'S OVERALL INTENTIONS. ALSO, IN VIEW OF THE BROAD DIFFERENCES IN BASIC PHILOSOPHIES REGARDING RESTRICTIVE AND PROTECTIVE PRACTICES, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE DURING THIS FIRST ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS. THERE IS THE FURTHER CONSIDERATION THAT EFFORTS WITH THE PHILIPPINES HAVE NOT BEEN ENTIRELY EXHAUSTED AND TO DISCUSS OR GRANT AUTHORITY INCONSISTENT WITH WHAT MIGHT BE OBTAINED FROM THAT COUNTRY AT THIS TIME WOULD BE FRUITLESS.

ACCORDINGLY, THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT ASIDE FROM EXCHANGING VIEWS ON TEXT AND BASIC AVIATION PHILOSOPHIES THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION NOT MAKE ANY SPECIFIC ROUTE OFFERS OR REQUESTS BUT IN ANY DISCUSSION OF ROUTES INDICATE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS IN MIND FOR SINGAPORE A SINGLE ROUTE VIA LIMITED INTERMEDIATE POINTS. AS FOR UNITED STATES RIGHTS, THE US DELEGATION SHOULD FEEL SINGAPORE OUT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITH A VIEW TOWARD DETERMINING WHAT IS REALISTICALLY ACHIEVABLE.

BASED ON INFORMATION DEVELOPED DURING THIS ROUND OF TALKS THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS DURING A SECOND ROUND WHICH WE ASSUME WOULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON. UNQUOTE. SISCO

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